

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 NEA-09 ISO-00 ACDA-10 IO-10 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USIA WASHDC

USMISSION USUN

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UNCLAS MOSCOW 3115

USIA FOR IPO/M

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US

SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS REVIEW MARCH 8

1. U.S.: PRAVDA IN ARTICLE TITLED "NEGATIVE REACTION" REPLAYS EXCERPTS FROM PERUVIAN PRESS COMMENTARY ON THE SECRETARY'S HOUSTON SPEECH. THRUST OF COMMENTARY IS THAT "WHAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE CALLS 'A TACTIC OF CONFRONTATION'" IS NOTHING MORE THAN A SIGN OF INCREASING INDEPENDENCE OF LATIN AMERICA. THE PRAVDA ARTICLE ITSELF MAKES NO SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT, BUT REPRINTS CRITICISM OF THE HOUSTON SPEECH IN WHICH THE SECRETARY IS NAMED AS THE SOURCE. PRAVDA ALSO REPORTS THAT 33 AFRICAN NATIONS HAVE PROTESTED IN WASHINGTON THE APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR DAVIS AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS. "AS IS WELL KNOWN", SAYS PRAVDA, "DAVIS IS CLOSELY CONNECTED TO THE CIA". PRAVDA REPORTS A FURTHER SALT-II SESSION ON MARCH 7.

2. MIDDLE EAST: SOVIET PRESS COVERAGE ON THE MIDDLE EAST IS VERY LIGHT. IN A PRAVDA COMMENTARY ON THE RECENT MEETING OF SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LEADERS OF THE WEST IN BERLIN, ISRAELI PARTICIPANTS ARE CRITICIZED FOR THEIR EFFORTS TO DRUM UP SUPPORT FOR THEIR "AGGRESSIVE POLICIES." PRAVDA ALSO PRINTS A TASS ITEM ON THE OPEC DECLARATION FROM THE ALGIERS MEETING. THE ITEM SUPPORTS CONTINUING OPEC EFFORTS TO ASSERT CONTROL OVER THEIR OWN RESOURCES. RED STAR CARRIES A TASS ITEM FROM ALGIERS ON THE MEETING IN ALGIERS BETWEEN THE SHAH OF IRAN AND ASSAM HASSAD, REPORTING THAT AN AGREEMENT HAS BEEN SIGNED BETWEEN THE TWO TO WORK TOWARD A SOLUTION OF BILATERAL PROBLEMS.

3. EUROPE: A PRAVDA ITEM REPRINTS A RUDE PRAVO COMMENTARY ON THE JUST CONCLUDED MEETING OF BLOC PARTY SECRETARIES IN PRAGUE. THE COMMENTARY STATES THAT PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE IS "A FORM OF CLASS STRUGGLE ON AN INTERNATIONAL SCALE. PEACE IS NOT CLASS RECONCILIATION, BUT RATHER A STRUGGLE BETWEEN SOCIALIST AND BOURGEOIS IDEOLOGY". ANOTHER PRAVDA TASS ITEM UNCLASSIFIED

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CONTENDS THAT "REACTIONARY FORCES" IN THE FRG ARE ATTEMPTING TO USE THE LORENZ KIDNAPPING TO WHIP UP ANTI-COMMUNIST FEELINGS.

4. ASIA: PRAVDA REPLAYS WITHOUT COMMENT SEVERAL TASS ITEMS ON THE CAMBODIAN SITUATION INCLUDING REPORTS ON THE FIGHTING, ON US MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN OKINAWA, ON PRESIDENT FORD'S RENEWED CALL FOR CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF SUPPLEMENTARY AID AND ON OPPOSING COMMENTS BY CONGRESSIONAL FIGURES. PRAVDA AND

RED STAR CARRY A COMMENTARY BY TASS OBSERVER M. YAKOVLYEV
ON THE NEW POLITICAL CAMPAIGN IN CHINA. THE ARTICLE CITES
THE CALLS TO STUDY THE "THEORY OF THE DICTATORSHIP OF THE
PROLETARIAT" AND NOTES YAO WEN-YUAN'S ARTICLE IN THE MARCH
ISSUE OF RED FLAG. YAKOVLYEV DISCOUNTS MAOIST THEORY AS NON-
LENINIST AND LINKS YAO AND THE NEW CAMPAIGN TO THE CULTURAL
REVOLUTION IN USUAL NEGATIVE TERMS.
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